

Missouri Crop & Livestock

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Reporter

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United States Department of Agriculture cooperating with Missouri Department of Agriculture

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Merry Christmas!

Season's Greetings,

The Christmas Season marks the end of another growing season for agriculture, but most of all a time to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings that have been bestowed on our industry. 2006 presented many challenges relative to our production capabilities. Very low rainfall in some areas with excessive heat throughout, difficult hay and pasture conditions, high fuel prices but relatively favorable commodity prices seemed to be the trend for 2006.

As I visit with producers across the state, I see excitement in their eyes and enthusiasm to enter the next year. The bins are full and marketing plans are being focused on the next growing season. As my staff continues to prepare the official USDA estimates of production and inventories that are imperative to decision making, we thank the thousands of Missouri producers that unselfishly take the time to ensure that the 'facts on agriculture' are the most reliable in the world. Decisions can be made on actual facts instead of hear say or rumors in the marketplace! Another thing to be thankful for . . .

We will face many challenges next year. Planting decisions will be paramount as producers evaluate the supply and demand forecasts for major crops. Animal diseases and ID programs continue to concern many. The next farm bill will require the best data for policymakers. Policymakers, animal and plant disease officials, producers and others must have the best and latest information possible to combat these and other threats. That is where you as a producer play a vital role in helping ensure the decisions that are made that affect all of agriculture are made using sound science and the most accurate data available. Your continued support of the voluntary NASS surveys is needed and appreciated.

Thanks again to the many producers and agribusinesses throughout Missouri that help make the information available to agriculture the backbone of our businesses. Our corp of data collectors throughout Missouri are a valuable part of the unbiased nature of producing accurate information. We thank each of them for their professionalism.

From our staff to you, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and the Happiest of Holidays and look forward to a Prosperous and Healthy New Year!

Gene Danekas
Director

2007 Press Release Calendar
Missouri Agricultural Statistics Service
601 Business Loop 70 West, Suite 240, Columbia, MO 65203

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|--|-----|----|--|
| Jan | 12 | Winter Wheat Seedings Annual Crop Production and Grain Stocks | Jul | 12 | Crop Production |
| | 26 | Cattle on Feed | Aug | 03 | Land Values and Cash Rents |
| | | Farms and Land in Farms | | 10 | Crop Production |
| Feb | 2 | Sheep and Goats Farm Numbers and Livestock Operations | Sep | 12 | Crop Production |
| Mar | 30 | Grain Stocks, Prospective Planting Quarterly Hogs and Pigs | | 28 | Grain Stocks and Small Grains Summary Quarterly Hogs and Pigs |
| Apr | -- | -- | Oct | 12 | Crop Production |
| May | 11 | Crop Production | Nov | 9 | Crop Production |
| Jun | 11 | Crop Production | Dec | 27 | Quarterly Hogs and Pigs |
| | 29 | Acreage and Grain Stocks Quarterly Hogs and Pigs | | | |

The complete report can be found at:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Missouri/Publications/Press_Releases/index.asp

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October Milk Production

| State | Milk Cows ^{1/} | | Milk Per Cow ^{2/} | | Milk Production ^{2/} | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 |
| | 1,000 Head | | Pounds | | Million Pounds | |
| IL | 104 | 103 | 1,510 | 1,550 | 157 | 160 |
| IA | 198 | 200 | 1,690 | 1,670 | 335 | 334 |
| MO | 114 | 115 | 1,280 | 1,240 | 146 | 143 |
| 23 State | 8,168 | 8,246 | 1,637 | 1,656 | 13,373 | 13,652 |

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1103>

U.S. Dairy Production by Product, Oct 2006

| Product | October 2006 | Change From | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Oct 2005 | Sep 2006 |
| | 1,000 Pounds | Percent | |
| Butter | 118,172 | 8.5 | 13.9 |
| Cheese | | | |
| American Types ^{1/} | 320,978 | 2.8 | -1.3 |
| Total | 800,224 | 5.2 | 2.0 |
| | 1,000 Gallons | Percent | |
| Frozen Products | | | |
| Ice Cream, Hard | 64,299 | -8.0 | -11.6 |
| Ice Cream, Lowfat, Total | 29,849 | 10.5 | -3.3 |
| Ice Cream, Nonfat, Hard | 1,015 | -34.0 | -0.3 |
| Sherbet, Hard | 3,690 | -0.9 | -3.5 |
| Frozen Yogurt, Total | 4,917 | -3.9 | -4.4 |
| | 1,000 Pounds | Percent | |
| Dry Whey Products | | | |
| Dry Whey, Human | 30,901 | -6.5 | -5.4 |
| Dry Whey, Animal | 1,574 | -60.0 | -13.1 |
| Dry Whey, Total | 32,475 | -12.2 | -5.8 |

1/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1052>

Chicks Hatched by Commercial Hatcheries

| Item | October | | Jan - Oct | |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 |
| <i>1,000</i> | | | | |
| Broiler-Type | | | | |
| 19 States ^{1/} | 757,353 | 753,437 | 7,704,756 | 7,673,205 |
| U.S. | 776,449 | 771,822 | 7,927,728 | 7,893,006 |
| Egg-Type | | | | |
| U.S. | 35,461 | 36,271 | 368,975 | 361,870 |

1/ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1028>

Average Prices Received by Farmers ^{1/}

| Average Prices Received by Farmers | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Commodity | Unit | Missouri | | | U.S. |
| | | Nov 2005* | Oct 2006 | Nov 2006 ^{2/} | Nov 2005 ^{2/} |
| Dollars | | | | | |
| Winter Wheat | Bu | 2.99 | 3.91 | 3.80 | 4.65 |
| Corn | Bu | 1.77 | 2.53 | 3.20 | 3.12 |
| Soybeans | Bu | 5.63 | 5.50 | 6.25 | 6.15 |
| Sorghum | Cwt | 3.04 | 4.69 | 5.50 | 5.88 |
| BALED HAY ^{2/} | | | | | |
| All Hay | Ton | 63.00 | 76.00 | 78.00 | 106.00 |
| Alfalfa | Ton | 105.00 | 116.00 | 116.00 | 109.00 |
| Other | Ton | 50.00 | 61.00 | 61.00 | 98.10 |
| ALL BEEF | | | | | |
| Cows ^{3/} | Cwt | 47.10 | 45.10 | 42.10 | 43.70 |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt | 113.00 | 107.00 | 95.40 | 90.00 |
| Cattle ^{4/} | Cwt | 99.80 | 93.40 | 84.70 | 84.40 |
| Calves | Cwt | 133.00 | 121.00 | 110.00 | 119.00 |
| ALL HOGS | | | | | |
| Sows | Cwt | 36.30 | 36.80 | 35.80 | 36.10 |
| Barrows & Gilts | Cwt | 40.00 | 38.70 | 37.90 | 44.80 |
| All Hogs | Cwt | 39.80 | 38.60 | 37.80 | 44.50 |
| Market Eggs ^{2/} | Doz | 0.420 | 0.320 | 0.600 | 0.675 |
| MILK | | | | | |
| Fluid Grade ^{5/} | Cwt | 16.20 | 14.00 | | 13.80 |
| Manufacturing Grade ^{5/} | Cwt | 14.10 | 12.60 | | 13.10 |
| All Milk ^{5/} | Cwt | 16.10 | 13.90 | 14.00 | 13.80 |
| HOG/CORN RATIO ^{6/} | | 22.49 | 15.26 | 11.81 | 14.26 |

1/ Prices received represent the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations of specific grades or classes.

2/ Mid-month prices.

3/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

4/ "Cows" and "Steers & Heifers" combined.

5/ Missouri October fat test %: all milk 3.78, fluid grade 3.77, mfg grade 3.93.

U.S. November fat test %: all milk 3.81, fluid grade 3.80, mfg grade 4.06.

6/ "All Hogs" divided by "Corn" prices.

7/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

* Revised

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1002>

October 2006 Egg Production

| State | Number of Layers on Hand ^{1/} | Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/} | Total Production |
|-----------|--|---|---------------------|
| | <i>1,000</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Million Eggs</i> |
| AR | 13,888 | 1,966 | 273 |
| IA | 51,765 | 2,249 | 1,164 |
| MO | 7,348 | 2,286 | 168 |
| U.S. | 343,776 | 2,231 | 7,671 |

1/ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1028>

Hired Workers Down 5 Percent, Wage Rates Up 4 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,077,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 8-14, 2006, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 797,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 280,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.95 per hour during the October 2006 reference week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.25 per hour, up 35 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.41 per hour compared with \$9.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.29 per hour, was up 33 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Labor and Wage Rates, Cornbelt II Region (Missouri and Iowa) October 2005, July 2006 and October 2006 ¹

| Item | October 9 - 15, 2005 | July 9 - 15, 2006 | October 8 - 14, 2006 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| FARM EMPLOYMENT | | <i>Thousands</i> | |
| Hired Workers | 29 | 23 | 25 |
| HOURS WORKED PER WORKER | | <i>Hours per Week</i> | |
| Hired Workers | 40.1 | 41.8 | 43.1 |
| FARM WAGE RATES (type of worker) | | <i>Dollars per Hour</i> | |
| All Hired Workers | 11.16 | 10.40 | 10.65 |
| Field Workers | 9.21 | 9.85 | 9.70 |
| Livestock Workers | 10.89 | 10.15 | 10.26 |
| Combined Field & Livestock Workers | 10.02 | 10.00 | 9.95 |

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers

The complete NASS Report can be accessed at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1063>

Look for these reports at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Reports_By_Date/index.asp

Cattle on Feed - December 22

Livestock Slaughter - December 22

Quarterly Hogs and Pigs - December 27

Annual Crop Production - January 12